

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

1. **Cancelled**

2. **Cancelled**

3. **Cancelled**

4. **(Currently Amended)** The An isolated polypeptide of ~~Claim 1~~ having at least 95% amino acid sequence identity to:

(a) the amino acid sequence of the polypeptide ~~shown in Figure 14 (SEQ ID NO:14)~~ of SEQ ID NO: 14;

(b) the amino acid sequence of the polypeptide ~~shown in Figure 14 (SEQ ID NO:14)~~ of SEQ ID NO: 14, lacking its associated signal peptide;

(c) the amino acid sequence of the extracellular domain of the polypeptide ~~shown in Figure 14 (SEQ ID NO:14)~~ of SEQ ID NO: 14;

(d) the amino acid sequence of the extracellular domain of the polypeptide ~~shown in Figure 14 (SEQ ID NO:14)~~, lacking of SEQ ID NO: 14, including its associated signal peptide; or

(e) the amino acid sequence of the polypeptide encoded by the full-length coding sequence of the cDNA deposited under ATCC accession number 203579;

wherein said extracellular domain is selected from the group consisting of amino acids 21-53 of SEQ ID NO: 14, amino acids 119-129 of SEQ ID NO: 14, and amino acids 167-234 of SEQ ID NO: 14; and

wherein said isolated polypeptide is more highly expressed in melanoma compared to normal skin tissue or wherein said isolated polypeptide is encoded by a polynucleotide that is more highly expressed in melanoma compared to normal skin tissue.

5. **(Currently Amended)** The isolated polypeptide of ~~Claim 1~~ Claim 4 having at least 99% amino acid sequence identity to:

(a) the amino acid sequence of the polypeptide ~~shown in Figure 14 (SEQ ID NO:14)~~ of SEQ ID NO: 14;

(b) the amino acid sequence of the polypeptide ~~shown in Figure 14 (SEQ ID NO:14)~~ of SEQ ID NO: 14, lacking its associated signal peptide;

(c) the amino acid sequence of the extracellular domain of the polypeptide ~~shown in Figure 14 (SEQ ID NO:14) of SEQ ID NO: 14;~~

(d) the amino acid sequence of the extracellular domain of the polypeptide ~~shown in Figure 14 (SEQ ID NO:14), lacking of SEQ ID NO: 14, including~~ its associated signal peptide; or

(e) the amino acid sequence of the polypeptide encoded by the full-length coding sequence of the cDNA deposited under ATCC accession number 203579;

wherein said extracellular domain is selected from the group consisting of amino acids 21-53 of SEQ ID NO: 14, amino acids 119-129 of SEQ ID NO: 14, and amino acids 167-234 of SEQ ID NO: 14; and

wherein said isolated polypeptide is more highly expressed in melanoma compared to normal skin tissue or wherein said isolated polypeptide is encoded by a polynucleotide that is more highly expressed in melanoma compared to normal skin tissue.

6. **(Currently Amended)** An isolated polypeptide comprising:

(a) the amino acid sequence of the polypeptide ~~shown in Figure 14 (SEQ ID NO:14) of SEQ ID NO: 14;~~

(b) the amino acid sequence of the polypeptide ~~shown in Figure 14 (SEQ ID NO:14) of SEQ ID NO: 14,~~ lacking its associated signal peptide;

(c) the amino acid sequence of the extracellular domain of the polypeptide ~~shown in Figure 14 (SEQ ID NO:14) of SEQ ID NO: 14;~~

(d) the amino acid sequence of the extracellular domain of the polypeptide ~~shown in Figure 14 (SEQ ID NO:14), lacking of SEQ ID NO: 14, including~~ its associated signal peptide; or

(e) the amino acid sequence of the polypeptide encoded by the full-length coding sequence of the cDNA deposited under ATCC accession number 203579;

wherein said extracellular domain is selected from the group consisting of amino acids 21-53 of SEQ ID NO: 14, amino acids 119-129 of SEQ ID NO: 14, and amino acids 167-234 of SEQ ID NO: 14.

7. **(Currently Amended)** The isolated polypeptide of Claim 6 comprising the amino acid sequence of the polypeptide ~~shown in Figure 14 (SEQ ID NO:14) of SEQ ID NO: 14.~~

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8. **(Currently Amended)** The isolated polypeptide of Claim 6 comprising the amino acid sequence of the polypeptide ~~shown in Figure 14 (SEQ ID NO:14) of SEQ ID NO: 14,~~ lacking its associated signal peptide.

9. **(Currently Amended)** The isolated polypeptide of Claim 6 comprising the amino acid sequence of the extracellular domain of the polypeptide ~~shown in Figure 14 (SEQ ID NO:14) of SEQ ID NO: 14,~~ wherein said extracellular domain is selected from the group consisting of amino acids 21-53 of SEQ ID NO: 14, amino acids 119-129 of SEQ ID NO: 14, and amino acids 167-234 of SEQ ID NO: 14.

10. **(Currently Amended)** The isolated polypeptide of Claim 6 comprising the amino acid sequence of the extracellular domain of the polypeptide ~~shown in Figure 14 (SEQ ID NO:14), lacking of SEQ ID NO: 14, including~~ its associated signal peptide, wherein said extracellular domain is selected from the group consisting of amino acids 21-53 of SEQ ID NO: 14, amino acids 119-129 of SEQ ID NO: 14, and amino acids 167-234 of SEQ ID NO: 14.

11. **(Original)** The isolated polypeptide of Claim 6 comprising the amino acid sequence of the polypeptide encoded by the full-length coding sequence of the cDNA deposited under ATCC accession number 203579.

12. **(Currently Amended)** A chimeric polypeptide comprising a polypeptide according to ~~Claim 1~~ Claim 4 fused to a heterologous polypeptide.

13. **(Currently Amended)** The chimeric polypeptide of Claim 12, wherein said heterologous polypeptide is ~~an epitope~~ a tag polypeptide or an Fc region of an immunoglobulin.

14. **(New)** An isolated polypeptide having at least 95% amino acid sequence identity to:

- (a) the amino acid sequence of the polypeptide of SEQ ID NO: 14;
- (b) the amino acid sequence of the polypeptide of SEQ ID NO: 14, lacking its associated signal peptide;
- (c) the amino acid sequence of the extracellular domain of the polypeptide of SEQ ID NO: 14;
- (d) the amino acid sequence of the extracellular domain of the polypeptide of SEQ ID NO: 14, including its associated signal peptide; or

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(e) the amino acid sequence of the polypeptide encoded by the full-length coding sequence of the cDNA deposited under ATCC accession number 203579;

wherein said extracellular domain is selected from the group consisting of amino acids 21-53 of SEQ ID NO: 14, amino acids 119-129 of SEQ ID NO: 14, and amino acids 167-234 of SEQ ID NO: 14; and

wherein said isolated polypeptide or a fragment thereof can be used to generate an antibody which can be used to specifically detect the polypeptide of SEQ ID NO: 14 in skin tissue samples.

15. **(New)** The isolated polypeptide of Claim 14 having at least 99% amino acid sequence identity to:

(a) the amino acid sequence of the polypeptide of SEQ ID NO: 14;

(b) the amino acid sequence of the polypeptide of SEQ ID NO: 14, lacking its associated signal peptide;

(c) the amino acid sequence of the extracellular domain of the polypeptide of SEQ ID NO: 14;

(d) the amino acid sequence of the extracellular domain of the polypeptide of SEQ ID NO: 14, including its associated signal peptide; or

(e) the amino acid sequence of the polypeptide encoded by the full-length coding sequence of the cDNA deposited under ATCC accession number 203579;

wherein said extracellular domain is selected from the group consisting of amino acids 21-53 of SEQ ID NO: 14, amino acids 119-129 of SEQ ID NO: 14, and amino acids 167-234 of SEQ ID NO: 14; and

wherein said isolated polypeptide or a fragment thereof can be used to generate an antibody which can be used to specifically detect the polypeptide of SEQ ID NO: 14 in skin tissue samples.

16. **(New)** A chimeric polypeptide comprising a polypeptide according to Claim 14 fused to a heterologous polypeptide.

17. **(New)** The chimeric polypeptide of Claim 16, wherein said heterologous polypeptide is a tag polypeptide or an Fc region of an immunoglobulin.